

# THE LORD'S PEOPLE

CORE PASSAGE: 2 SAMUEL 7:18-29

## CONTEXT

After Saul's death, David became king over the tribe of Judah and eventually over all of Israel. David moved the ark of the covenant to Jerusalem with great rejoicing. And in 2 Samuel 7, David finally enjoyed rest from his enemies. As David relaxed in his house, he noted the grandeur of his palace compared to the tent where the ark of God dwelled. So David wanted to build a house for the Lord, and initially, the prophet Nathan encouraged David to do so. Though David had good intentions, the Lord intervened and corrected David. It would not be David who built a house for the Lord but the Lord would build a house for David.

## KEY CONCEPT

**As God's people, we can be assured of God's promises.**

As you read 2 Samuel 7:18-29:

- Recognize that God's goodness to David was so that God could redeem a people for Himself.
- Meditate with joy that God keeps His promise for our good to be a blessing to His people.



## TIMELINE

David Flees from Saul (1 Samuel 20–30)

Saul and His Sons Die in Battle  
(1 Samuel 31)

David Becomes King of Israel  
(2 Samuel 2–5)

**SESSION STUDY: God Makes a Covenant  
with David (2 Samuel 7)**

David Mourns Saul and Jonathan  
(2 Samuel 1)

David Moves the Ark of God to Jerusalem  
(2 Samuel 6)

David Sins Against God (2 Samuel 11)

## Daily Readings

☐ **Day 1:** 1 Chronicles 1–10

☐ **Day 4:** 2 Samuel 8–10

☐ **Day 2:** 2 Samuel 1–5

☐ **Day 5:** 1 Chronicles 11–19

☐ **Day 3:** 2 Samuel 6–7

☐ **Day 6:** Psalm 115



Scan this QR code  
to access this session's  
Scripture passages.

## PERSONAL PREPARATION

### 2 SAMUEL 7:18-24

## OUR GREAT GOD DESIRES TO CREATE A PEOPLE FOR HIMSELF.

*Highlight the actions that David attributed to the Lord from Israel's history.*

**18** Then King David went in, sat in the LORD's presence, and said, Who am I, Lord GOD, and what is my house that you have brought me this far? **19** What you have done so far was a little thing to you, Lord GOD, for you have also spoken about your servant's house in the distant future. And this is a revelation for mankind, Lord GOD. **20** What more can David say to you? You know your servant, Lord GOD. **21** Because of your word and according to your will, you have revealed all these great things to your servant. **22** This is why you are great, Lord GOD. There is no one like you, and there is no God besides you, as all we have heard confirms. **23** And who is like your people Israel? God came to one nation on earth in order to redeem a people for himself, to make a name for himself, and to perform for them great and awesome acts, driving out nations and their gods before your people you redeemed for yourself from Egypt. **24** You established your people Israel to be your own people forever, and you, LORD, have become their God.

### THEOLOGY CONNECTION

**PEOPLE OF GOD:** Scripture describes the church as the people of God (2 Corinthians 6:16). Comprised of both Jew and Gentile, the church is created by God through the atoning death of Christ. The term "church" is used in two senses—of individual local churches composed of people who have covenanted together under the lordship of Christ and of the universal church composed of all believers in Christ in all times. As the people of God, the church seeks to live under God's ruling care while we are protected and cared for by Him.

**Key Concept:** As God's people, we can be assured of God's promises.



God is great, and there is no one like Him. God spoke through the prophet Nathan and reminded David that God had been with him at every season of his life. From the pasture to the palace, in the field or in battle, God had been acting on his behalf (vv. 8-9). We should remember that at every stage of our life, through every struggle or victory, God has been with us too. God accomplishes every great thing in our lives, especially our salvation. In this prayer of response, David recognized that God is the only One worthy of honor. He held no honor for himself. Likewise, we should remember to give all honor and glory to God for His salvation.

**Where have you seen the greatness of God most evident in your life?**

God's greatness should create in us a posture of humility. David's encounter with the Lord in this passage began with David in his palace looking down on the tabernacle of the Lord. He dreamed big of a permanent temple by which to honor the Lord who had blessed him (2 Samuel 7:1-3). But by the end of the Lord's message through Nathan, David left his palace to worship the Lord in the tent (v. 18). Where David once saw his great house as better than the tent, he left that house in favor of the place where the Lord is. He humbled himself before the God who is great and who had made him a king. The proper posture of the heart enamored by the grace of God is one of humility.

**Why should God's greatness produce humility in us?**

Though God is great and in need of no one (vv. 5-7), God has also been working to redeem a people for Himself. Throughout the Scriptures, we see God's desire to be with and worshiped by His people. Wonderfully, God's greatness does not drive Him away from us but toward us. His greatness, redemption, and presence are all seen clearly in the person and work of Jesus Christ. Through Jesus's death and resurrection, God is creating a people for His own possession who exist to declare His glory (1 Peter 2:9).

## PERSONAL PREPARATION

2 SAMUEL 7:25-29

### WHAT GOD WILLS AND PROMISES, HE WILL DO.

*Circle each length of time mentioned in the text.*

**25** Now, LORD God, fulfill the promise forever that you have made to your servant and his house. Do as you have promised, **26** so that your name will be exalted forever, when it is said, “The LORD of Armies is God over Israel.” The house of your servant David will be established before you **27** since you, LORD of Armies, God of Israel, have revealed this to your servant when you said, “I will build a house for you.” Therefore, your servant has found the courage to pray this prayer to you. **28** Lord GOD, you are God; your words are true, and you have promised this good thing to your servant. **29** Now, please bless your servant’s house so that it will continue before you forever. For you, Lord GOD, have spoken, and with your blessing your servant’s house will be blessed forever.

**Key Concept:** As God's people, we can be assured of God's promises.



God keeps His promises because of His character and for His glory. David said that the result of God keeping His promise would be God's name being exalted forever (v. 26). God's promises can be fulfilled "forever" and His name praised "forever" because He Himself is eternal and He is eternally faithful.

Often in the Scriptures, the intended result of God doing a mighty work is that people would acknowledge Him as God alone. This was true in the exodus account (Exodus 7:5) as well as in the Lord's promise to David. While God often does great things in our lives, God's actions are never meant simply to give us what we want; they are meant to move us to praise God and exalt His name so others may know Him as the Lord God.

**What promises of God from His Word are especially comforting to you?**

culminated in the coming of Jesus Christ, the Son of David (Matthew 1:1). David was not a perfect king or man. We read about two great sins of David in 2 Samuel 11. However, David's sin did not destroy God's promise to him because God's promise was also His eternal plan. In spite of our weakness, in spite of our sin, God will do what He promises in His Word.

#### GOSPEL CONNECTION



God's promise to establish a people and to redeem them through the line of David was fulfilled in Jesus Christ through His death and resurrection.

**How does God's faithfulness to His Word encourage you to repent? To obey?**

The Old Testament contains many promises of God called covenants. The storyline of Scripture advances through the covenants that we find in the Old Testament and reaches a high point in the new covenant in Christ. The Davidic covenant in 2 Samuel 7 contains God's promise to David that God would establish the eternal reign of David's lineage, which

## GOD'S PROMISES

*Read the passages below and list the ways God kept His promises to His people, to David, and to believers.*

**TO ISRAEL**  
(2 SAMUEL 7:22-24)

**TO DAVID**  
(2 SAMUEL 7:25-29)

**TO ME**

What encouragement does this passage give about God's faithfulness to fulfill His promises?

**Key Concept:** As God's people, we can be assured of God's promises.



## HEAD

Since all of life is about God's glory, what are some areas of your life that are not aligned with that goal?

### PRAYING SCRIPTURE

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Read and pray through Psalm 115. Praise God and give Him all glory for being your help and shield. Thank Him that He is the God who saves and blesses His people forever in Jesus Christ.

### PRAYER REQUESTS AND PRAISES



## HEART

How can you cultivate humility in your heart?



## HANDS

With whom will you share about the greatness of God in the gospel of Jesus Christ?

